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WEINSDAY MORNING MAY 2, 1860.

The foreign policy of Mr. Buchanan and his Cabinet has been such as to command respect, though the home policy of the Administration has been hardly so creditable. The intrigues and machinations among ourselves have not overshadowed a judicious policy, and our foreign relations at present are a source of congratulation to all patriotic citizens. The mistakes and misconstructions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty have all been elucidated and rectified, and our course with regard to Central America is clear and unobstructed. By the judicious character of the negotiations our desires can be readily carried out. In regard to Mexico, we have been peculiarly fortunate. Our interests and sympathies lay with Juarez and the defeat of Miramon, and the latter, in spite of the combined wishes of Spain, France and England was driven from Veracruz, and his career effectually checked. This has been accomplished without offence to either power, and the future gives promise that our relations with Mexico will henceforward be advantageous, giving security to American property and person, and indemnity for past outrages. We have secured the title to a protectorate over that unhappy country, and if we wished, could control the destinies and institutions of Mexico exclusively. But a wise forbearance gives the three powers mentioned, no basis for interference. With the Central American States, Granda and Venezuela, our relations are amicable, and even Spain is mollified by the recent treaty by Mr. Preston, which is understood to be satisfactory to the President, though not yet publicly disclosed. With Japan, we have made great advances, and the Japanese embassy to the United States will have the effect to increase American influence with the exclusive, who have honored us with their first diplomatic representation. In the celestial empire, the American policy has been admirably successful. We have accomplished more with peace and good fortune than our rivals have or can obtain by war. Trade with both Japan and China is rapidly increasing, and we observe by the Pacific papers that San Francisco is already reaping the advantages of the judicious policy of our intercourse with the Chinese. The Government has put the San Juan difficulty upon a basis for settlement, which will insure, as our full rights in the questions involved, and at this moment we are free of either entangling alliances or subjects of serious dispute with any power. It is a matter of congratulation that, while all Europe is in a ferment of excitement, and also while the great powers are at loggerheads in the East, the United States stand serene, patient, uninvolved, though not uninterested, in the great political problems in process of solution in the Old World.

Though the land echoes to the cries of partisans, and bitter words are bandied between politicians, the country moves majestically onward to its destiny, unshaken by the political travail and gathering strength from every source. The vast inheritance left us by our progenitors, with the acquisitions we ourselves have gathered, is no mean assemblage as the echoes of a lunatic's cry. We distrust the patriotism of those who, for a political whim, an idea, a mere construction, would attempt to sacrifice the glorious Union to party success or individual advancement. Nor can we think a serious crisis possible between the States. The general prosperity of the country, its dignity and success in the conduct of its foreign affairs, forbids the idea. Indeed, the foreign policy of the Government may be considered the index to the unopened volume of the future. The plenipotentiaries of the country are treated, not as the representatives of a dominant party, in a country rent by irreconcilable dissensions, but with the respect due to the ministers of a great and powerful nation.

Book Notices.
THE HISTORY OF FRANCE. By PAUL GODWIN. Vol. I.—ANCIENT GAUL. Harper & Brothers.

The history of France is, for a considerable period, the history of the Continent of Europe. Even now a revolution in France convulses the Continent. If a French thronetotter, all the thrones of Europe shake in company. The Queen of Fashion has her throne in the French capital, and we dress according to her will. And yet we have nothing that can be called a complete history of France. Mr. Godwin has undertaken to supply this deficiency. This first volume contains Ancient Gaul, terminating with the era of Charlemagne. The author's plan embraces six volumes, each to be complete in itself. The second volume is to contain Feudal France, closing with St. Louis; the third, France during the national civil and religious wars; the fourth, France under the great ministers—Sully, Mazarin and Richelieu; the fifth, the Reign of Louis XIV; while the sixth volume will contain the history of the Eighteenth Century, to the breaking out of the French Revolution of 1789. Mr. Godwin seems to be master of his subject, and his work promises to become the standard history of France. We are sorry that Mr. Godwin has followed some of the modern historians of Greece, in changing well-known names. Alaric, the Visigoth, and King Pepin we know, but Alaric, the Visigoth, and King Pepin we are obliged to translate. For sale by L. A. Civil.

A VOYAGE DOWN THE AMOON: WITH A LAND JOURNEY FROM KASHMIR TO LADAKH. By Major-General Sir R. G. B. MAXWELL, and Capt. J. P. POWERS, U.S.A., Commercial Agent at the Amoor River. D. Appleton & Co.

The attention of Mr. Collins has been turned towards Siberia by the perusal of Lieutenant Von Wrangel's Narrative of an Expedition to the Polar Sea. Reflecting on the great resources of the immense dominions of Russia in Asia, he thought that the Amoor river was the natural outlet of its production. He determined to learn by his own observations the adaptation of this river to steam navigation. Accordingly he procured from the United States Government a commission as Consul, and with letters to influential persons at St. Petersburg, he commenced his journey. He received encouragement and assistance from the Government of Russia, and in the beginning of the winter of 1856-7 he commenced his

THE GREAT FIGHT!

FULL PARTICULARS!

FROM WILKES' SPIRIT OF THE TIMES.

THE MEN.

As the men confronted each other for the first time, the contrast between them was glaringly distinct, Heenan overtopping the champion in most commanding style, and exhibiting an energy and presence that threatened unequalled danger. While his weight was, we are sorry that we cannot say; for being not obliged to go publicly to scale in battle for the champion ship, he had availed himself of his privilege, with the double object of keeping his antagonist in the dark, and of avoiding any refutation of his early statement that "we were not as tall as they were." We should judge from his appearance that he certainly weighed as much as 13 stone 5 lbs. (187), though it is not impossible he may either under or over him. Whatever weight he might have been, however, it was a weight upon his historical record, and his weight did great credit to Cusick and Macdonald, who, by the bye, when he first uncovered, betrayed a look of consciousness pride, as if they were not equal to the champion. Indeed, his spontaneous burst of energy went around the ring when his skin first sparkled in the light, and not the least curious of the observers was Tom Sayers himself. "I'll be hanged if he don't weigh a thousand!" said involuntarily, and we must presume his preparation. His skin was very clear, glossy, and, as we said before, sparkled in its whiteness, and the manner in which he stood, with his arms and about his shoulders, as he was represented in the pictures of the old Roman gladiators. His legs were firm and rather well-developed, and what they lacked in the fortification, the thigh was compensated by the sinewy sinews of the muscle. His loins, indicating a disposition to break up in that quarter, if harassed by prolonged hostilities, but the power which enabled him to stand above, and knotted his waist in such a manner as to make him a guarantee against serious trial in that quarter. 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EIGHTH DAY!

Seceders Organized!

NO NOMINATIONS!

Kentucky Declines to Act with the Fire-Eaters.

Louisiana's Position:

DOUGLAS' CHANCES!

CHARLESTON, April 30.—St. Andrew's Hall was thronged with members of the boilers from the Convention, John Preston of South Carolina, presided. Mr. D. delivered a short address. He considered this a great occasion. He said we only had the best institutions of our country. We are here to protect our rights and redress our wrongs. If we have committed we should have done that which would have driven us from the land of our fathers, and deprived us of the liberty they fought for, and ultimately would have driven us from the spot in which their sacred ashes repose.

Mr. Yancey followed with a statement of his views on the position occupied by the Southern delegates. We appear here simply to vindicate our States.

We were sent to the National Democratic Convention as delegates, but our mission has been fulfilled, and we are as mere citizens from the late National Convention, and are here to vindicate our gathering.

A few Southern delegates still remain, and it is true; but it is in the hope of inducing them to forgo their Black Republicans.

Mr. T. Yancey proposed that they should take action, and present their heads and watch the proceedings at the regular Convention.

Should that Convention nominate Douglass, it will then become their duty to present and recommend to the people of the United States candidates for President and Vice President, and to present a national and constitutional basis, and therefore a Southern basis.

He thought no steps should be taken by the seceding Convention until the proper time.

Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, did not regard the influence overruled principle in the National Convention, and the Black Republicans as it was a struggle for power and plunder—the corruptions and bargains of a general scramble for office.

It was the hope of the St. Louis delegation that they could have a seat, presenting a desire to join in such a nomination as would suit the South, but as soon as they had received their seats turned their backs on the South.

He trusted that other States would withdraw from the Convention, and that it would be otherwise. His main consideration is that seceders had the power to make regular nominations, but he would recommend, if it should be found necessary, that they should join in the recommendation of some of their associates, with a written address to their constituents.

Mr. Mathews, of Louisiana, in behalf of his delegation, asked that the first four delegates from the Wisconsin Conference be entitled to their seats. 221 delegates were elected, of whom 16 were absent. The conference proceeded to the election of Secretaries and four secretaries. No progress has been made in the regular convention. There is no prospect of a ballot to night.

Steamer Exploded and Loss of Life.

COLUMBIA, Ga., May 1.—The steamer Calhoun has exploded in the Ocmulgee river.

Mr. Rev. Alfred Brunson of Wisconsin and Rev. Charles B. Tippett, of Baltimore, the secretary and assistant secretaries of the last General Conference, were invited to come forward and act as secretaries of this conference.

Bishop H. M. Hopper, of the Wisconsin Conference, who had been invited to speak, did not attend.

The list of Conferences was then called.

No delegations were present from the Vermont Conference.

Objection was made by Mr. Wm. H. Branson to the admission of the Wisconsin delegation, and the to-day's proceedings were anxious awaited.

Counterfeits.

PHILADELPHIA, May 1.—The municipal election passed off very quietly. There was a drizzling rain during the day. Great interest was felt by the Democrats on the news from Charleston, and to-day's proceedings were anxiously awaited.

Municipal Election.

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Counterfeits.

NEW YORK, May 1.—Counterfeits \$5's on the Wamsutter Bank of Fall River, Mass., circled here yesterday.

RIVER NEWS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.—May 1, 1860.

The weather yesterday was clear and cool—cold for the first day of May. The river continues to receive its usual amount of water, and the water level is about the same as last night. The water is five feet, and four feet high. The tide is now five feet, and four feet high.

The Waco Strader, Capt. Dittman, is the mailboat for the Mississippi.

For St. Louis.—The Lancaster, Capt. Keyt, a very good steam-boat, left yesterday morning for St. Louis, packed, and will leave for the above and intermediate ports on Saturday at noon, from Port Gibson.

The Kate French arrived from Evansville, Ind., and intermediate ports this evening at 5 o'clock.

The U.S. mail is to be delivered at Evansville, Ind., and St. Louis, at 5 o'clock Saturday evening. When the Kate French arrives at Evansville, the A. James river had twice run over.

The Bowline is now attached at Evansville by six engineers, who claim an indebtedness of \$100.

The Kate French arrived on Monday, with 50 feet water on her deck.

The Kate French arrived last night from Evansville with a good crop of passengers and freight. To John A. Campbell, Esq., of Evansville, Ind., and intermediate ports.

The river at St. Louis had fallen three inches from Saturday night up to Monday morning, and was still receding slowly. There is eight feet fall in the channel of the Mississippi.

The Illinois river is falling, with 4 feet large in the channel from Peoria down.

The Upper Mississippi is reported rising from St. Paul, Minn., to 10 feet above the low water mark.

The Kate French arrived at Evansville Saturday night up to Monday morning, and was still receding slowly. There is eight feet fall in the channel of the Mississippi.

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